

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH March 14, 2006

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School Committee held a meeting on this date at 7:00 p.m. in the Jr. - Sr. High School Library. Members present were Susan DeSack, Chairperson; Teri Cicero, Vice Chairperson; Gregory Coutcher, Clerk; Members Frank Maher; Bill Clay; Paul McFadden; and William Munroe. Superintendent Roy M. Seitsinger, Jr.; Director of Administration Robert V. Ross; Director of Curriculum Nancy I. Daley; and Director of Special Services Maureen DeCrescenzo were present. Student Representative Emily DeCristofano was absent.

ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Vice Chair Cicero read the District Mission Statement.

OPEN FORUM – Community member (Exeter) Ted Nataley addressed the committee regarding the 2006-2007 Budget. He expressed his opinion that it is important the school district present the budget increase to taxpayers straight forward and in its entirety.

PRESENTATION – Student Member Report – None

ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA – Superintendent Seitsinger gave an overview of the Consent Agenda.

Vice Chair Cicero moved to pull and seal, Executive Session Minutes of February 23, 2006, and Executive Session I Minutes of February 28, 2006 from the consent agenda. Seconded by Member Munroe. Voted 7 – 0.

Member Clay moved to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Member Maher. Voted 7 – 0.

The following items were approved:

A. Minutes – Joint Meeting of the EWG School Committee and the West Greenwich and Exeter Town Councils Minutes of February 13 2006, Regular Minutes of February 28, 2006, Executive Session II Minutes of February 28, 2006,

B. Personnel Items

1. Appointments – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

- a. Joshua Bednarczyk as Sr. High School Head Girls' Volleyball Coach, Stipend \$3,474.00, for the 2006 – 2007 season, effective March 14, 2006.**

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH March 14, 2006

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Page 2

**b. Wilson Knerr as Senior High School Assistant Baseball Coach,
Stipend \$2,315.00, for the 2005-2006 season, effective March 14,
2006**

**c. Melanie Lawhead as Junior High School Softball Coach,
Stipend \$3,639.00, for the 2005-2006 season, effective
March 14,
2006**

2. Leave of absence –

3. Resignations – (As Recommended by the Superintendent)

**a. Letter of Resignation from Linda Sullivan from her position as
Grade 1 Teacher at Wawaloam School, for the purpose of
retirement, with regret, effective June 2006.**

**b. Letter of Resignation from Sandra Horan from her position as
Grade 2 Teacher at Wawaloam School, for the purpose of
retirement, with regret, effective June 2006.**

**c. Letter of Resignation from Barbara Lemme, from her position
as Grade 2 Teacher at Wawaloam School, for the
purpose of
retirement, with regret, effective June 2006.**

4. Non-Renewals –

5. Grievances –

C. Bills – In the amount of \$213,466.44

End Consent Agenda

Superintendent Seitsinger read the list of Correspondence.

D. Correspondence – (1) Letter and documents to Superintendent Seitsinger from Principal Myers Regarding New Playground Equipment Purchase for Lineham School, (2) RI Association of School Committees 2006 Legislative Workshop Flyer

MONTHLY STATUS REPORTS – Superintendent – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding the Superintendent's Status Report.

Business – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding the Director of Administration Status Report.

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH March 14, 2006

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Page 3

Curriculum – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding the Curriculum Director's Status Report.

Special Education – Members McFadden and Clay requested Director of Special Services Maureen DeCrescenzo provide her Status Report again at the next School Committee meeting with a more detailed breakdown; particularly as it relates to tuition rates and significant increase totals in population. Member McFadden requested this item be placed on the next School Committee agenda for discussion as well.

Maintenance – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding the Maintenance Status Report.

MONTHLY BUDGET PROJECTION 2005 – 2006 – Director of Administration Robert Ross confirmed the 2005 – 2006 Budget is still in the black.

MONTHLY SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT – Policy Committee Report – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding the Policy Committee Report.

NEW BUSINESS – New Textbook Adoption – Superintendent Seitsinger referenced a memo from History Department Chairperson Louise Oliveira which discloses the need to replace approximately twenty Grade 8 history books due to water damage. Curriculum Director Nancy Daley reported the current Glencoe 8th grade textbook used has been replaced by a 2007 copyright title. Since the

current title is a 1997 copyright, the department is proposing beginning a phased-in replacement of the older text with the new title; instead of purchasing the older copyright at a similar price. Ms. Daley provided four copies of the new title for members to review prior to adoption; which will be a School Committee agenda item on March 28th. She explained the new title will be displayed at the junior high school and on the junior high school website; and the review process implemented in selecting the new textbook. She also explained 40 books will be purchased through the current year's budget and an additional 50 books will be purchased through next year's budget. Superintendent Seitsinger reported, going forward new textbook adoption requests will follow the steps of first presenting the textbook to members for their review and then requesting adoption of the textbook at the subsequent School Committee meeting. Chair DeSack requested, in the future, the agenda topic is named review rather than adoption at the first step. Member Maher made inquiry about the use of the remaining undamaged older textbooks. Ms. Daley will ask Ms. Oliveira and report back to Member Maher concerning this matter.

Final Budget 2006-2007 - Adoption – Vice Chair Cicero moved to adopt the Final Budget 2006 – 2007 in operations which reflects a 5.95 % increase. Seconded by Member Clay.

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH March 14, 2006

Member Munroe performed a personal budget analysis and provided copies of his revised budget to members for their review. Members and Administrators reviewed, discussed, and asked clarifying questions regarding Member Munroe's revised budget and Vice Chair Cicero's motion to adopt a 5.95% increase. After a lengthy discussion, Vice Chair Cicero called the vote.

Chair DeSack held the call to vote to allow for "one more point". After a lengthy discussion, Chair DeSack called the vote and repeated the motion on the floor. Member McFadden and Superintendent Seitsinger requested Vice Chair Cicero's motion be restated in order to specifically identify a dollar amount.

Vice Chair Cicero modified and restated her motion to adopt the Final Budget 2006 – 2007, which reflects a 5.95% increase; an operating budget of \$27,514,250. Seconded by Member Clay. Voted 4 – 3. Members Maher, McFadden, and Munroe voted no. Motion carries.

Vice Chair Cicero moved to also have the Capital Improvement at \$225,000. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher.

Members and Administrators discussed Capital Improvement items. Member McFadden suggested Vice Chair Cicero's motion include which Capital Improvements the \$225,000 will be used for.

Vice Chair Cicero added a line to her motion – The bulk of the funding will be used to bring the Metcalf School fire alarm system into compliance. Voted 7 – 0.

Policy #2300 – School Safety Plans-Crisis and Emergency Response Management – 1st Reading – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding this policy. This policy will continue on the next agenda for a 2nd Reading.

Policy #4200 – Food-Borne Illness Management – 1st Reading – Members did not express any questions or concerns regarding this policy. This policy will continue on the next agenda for a 2nd Reading.

Policy #3201 – Annual Budget – 1st Reading – Member Clay called members' attention to policy language relating to next year's chairperson's requirement to hold separate meetings with both Town Councils. Members discussed policy section referring to 16-2-21.3. Member McFadden communicated he will look at 16-2-21.3 and set forth his recommendation.

Policy #3206 – Regional School District Financial Meeting – 1st Reading – Members briefly discussed modifying policy #3206 language as it relates to meeting conduct and

removal of disorderly persons; and their right to still vote. Consensus of the committee was to contact Attorney Gorham to obtain a legal ruling and his recommended policy language concerning this matter. Chair DeSack asked members to e-mail any other suggested modifications they may have to the members of the policy committee.

Date of the District Financial Meeting – Superintendent Seitsinger reported Representative Sullivan did pass the bill to change the time of the District Financial Meeting from 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; however, the bill is presently in flux. The Superintendent said the proposed change will not impact this year's DFM and the District Financial Meeting will take place on Monday, April 10, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. He also reported the Public Hearing will take place on Monday, March 27, 2006.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Referendum Bond Discussion – Superintendent

Seitsinger, Director of Administration Robert Ross, and members discussed referendum bond procedure; the junior – senior high school's roof warranty; engaging a general contractor to conduct an assessment of project repairs and provide cost quotes; and prioritizing the list of project repairs considered necessary. Mr. Ross

referenced his District Asset Protection Report and expressed his opinion that page one reflects priority projects. Mr. Ross will provide cost quotes at the next School Committee meeting.

Policy #5130 – School Property Usage – Adoption – Member Clay moved to adopt Policy #5130 – School Property Usage. Seconded by Member McFadden. Voted 7 - 0.

Policy #6405 – Screening Potential Employees and School Volunteers – Adoption –

Superintendent Seitsinger and members briefly discussed Criminal Background Check fees, cost responsibility, and the policy enactment date of September 1, 2006. Vice Chair Cicero moved to adopt Policy #6405 – Screening Potential Employees and School Volunteers. Seconded by Clerk Coutcher. Voted 7 – 0.

2004 – 2005 Money Held Back by Exeter – Superintendent Seitsinger reported Attorney Gorham has submitted a letter to the judge requesting his decision regarding this matter. Attorney Gorham is hopeful he will receive a response by the beginning of April 2006.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS – Member Maher expressed his humble thanks to School Committee members and community members for their extensions of greetings and well wishes relating to his absence because of health problems.

IMPORTANT DATES AND MEETINGS – Chair DeSack reviewed upcoming important dates and meetings. - March 28, 2006 – School Committee Meeting-Metcalf School Presentation-(at Metcalf School), March 17, 2006 – Deadline for Motions to Change the Budget by more than \$10,000, March 27, 2006 – Public Hearing, April 10, 2006 – District Financial Meeting

EXETER-WEST GREENWICH March 14, 2006

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT Page 6

Superintendent Seitsinger reminded members a School Committee meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2006.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Chair DeSack moved to go into Executive Session at

8:45 p.m. in accordance with RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) for the purpose of discussion regarding Collective Bargaining Agreement – Council 94 - Contract. Seconded by Member Maher Voted 7 - 0.

Meeting recessed to Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

Meeting reconvened to Open Session at 8:47 p.m.

Chair DeSack called the meeting back to order in open session in accordance with RIGL 42-46-2(b) at 8:47 p.m.

She announced a vote was taken during Executive Session to ratify

**the Council 94 Contract. Voted
7 - 0. Motion carries.**

**ADJOURNMENT – Member Maher moved to adjourn at 8:48 p.m.
Seconded by Member McFadden. Voted 7 - 0.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

**ROBIN CERIO
CLERK**